



SAN FRANCISCO
OPERA GUILD

**SAN FRANCISCO OPERA GUILD ANNOUNCES
REVELRY ON THE RHINE, A GALA CELEBRATING
SAN FRANCISCO OPERA'S NEW PRODUCTION OF
RICHARD WAGNER'S *THE RING OF THE NIBELUNG*
JUNE 11, 2011 AT THE ST. REGIS SAN FRANCISCO**

SAN FRANCISCO, March 29, 2011— San Francisco Opera Guild hosts *Revelry on the Rhine*, Saturday, June 11, 2011 at the St. Regis San Francisco (125 Third Street). The black-tie gala will celebrate San Francisco Opera's new production of Richard Wagner's *The Ring of the Nibelung*, directed by Francesca Zambello and conducted by Donald Runnicles. All proceeds support the award-winning education and community outreach programs of San Francisco Opera Guild that reach more than 50,000 young people in 200 schools throughout Northern California every year.

The celebratory evening begins at 6 p.m. with *A Potent Potion*, a cocktail reception and silent wine auction in the tented pavilion. At 8 p.m. guests will proceed to the Gallery Ballroom for *Fafner's Feast*, a lavish dinner created by Executive Chef Romuald Feger, featuring a brief live auction and special entertainment. At 10 p.m. *Rhine Daughters' Revelry* begins as guests celebrate with dancing and a toast to San Francisco Opera's Summer season. Guests can look forward to additional entertaining surprises and a special tribute in honor of this summer's presentation of Wagner's complete four-opera cycle, *The Ring of the Nibelung*. The event Honorary Committee is comprised of major supporters and key production members of the *Ring* cycle, including Roberta and David Elliott, Kristina Flanagan, General Director of San Francisco Opera David Gockley, John A. and Cynthia Fry Gunn, George and Leslie Hume, General Director of Seattle Opera (and father to Co-Chair Linle Froeb) Speight Jenkins, Hiro and Betty Ogawa, Consul General of Germany and Mrs. Peter Rothen,

Maestro Donald Runnicles and San Francisco Opera Artistic Adviser and Director Francesca Zambello. Event Co-Chairs are Linle Froeb and Stephanie Tuttle.

Tickets for *Revelry on the Rhine* are priced from \$475–\$5,000 and are available through San Francisco Opera Guild. For tickets or more information, please call (415) 565-3204 or visit us online at www.sfopera.com/springgala2011. *Revelry on the Rhine* is generously supported by United Airlines, Nordstrom, William Hill Estate Winery, Scharffenberger Cellars, Grey Goose Vodka, the St. Regis San Francisco, German Consul General, Nob Hill Gazette and La Boulange Bakery.

Opening on May 29, Wagner's *The Ring of the Nibelung* returns to San Francisco for the first time in more than a decade. It is the most monumental work of art ever created—epic in scope, towering in its creative vision and majestic in its imaginative power. Larger than life yet poignantly human, the *Ring* cycle engages the mind even as it thrills the senses with pure visceral excitement. Former San Francisco Opera Music Director Donald Runnicles, one of the world's leading interpreters of Wagner, returns to conduct an international cast of singers with the renowned San Francisco Opera Orchestra and Chorus. The lust for power, the lure of gold, the sacred beauty of nature and the destructive impulses of man: these timeless themes dominate both the *Ring* and American history. San Francisco Opera's 2011 *Ring* cycle runs May 29–July 3 at the War Memorial Opera House.

About San Francisco Opera Guild

San Francisco Opera Guild believes the life lessons drawn from creative expression are the foundation of confidence and integrity. Since 1939, the Guild has acted on these beliefs by funding and developing award-winning outreach and education programs that extend the impact of opera, bringing it center stage into the life of the community. Through its education fund, "A Gift for All Seasons," San Francisco Opera Guild ensures the continuation of educational programs that help students find their own voice. Annually, more than 50,000 students in 200 schools throughout Northern California receive the benefits of arts education.

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